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/Michael Hicks/

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Yoshiki Fujimura

Serial No.: 10/672,622

For: HOME PAGE AUTOMATIC UPDATE SYSTEM AND HOME
PAGE AUTOMATIC UPDATE METHOD

Filed: September 26, 2003

Examiner: Michael J. Hicks

Art Unit: 2165

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Customer No.: 27,623

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**Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 1, 2010, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Listing of the Claims begins on page **2** of this paper.

Remarks begin on page **6** of this paper.

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-2. (Cancelled).

3. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 8, wherein the home page management server receives the mail message in accordance with a reception process of a mail message includes a process for sending a mail transmission request to the mail server, and a reception process of a mail message from the mail server.

4-7. (Cancelled).

8. (Currently amended) A system for automatically updating a home page comprising:

an update computer terminal configured to provide a content file including an advertisement content on the home page and a first identifying item specifying the home page, and a mail message including a second identifying item specifying the home page, a request of updating the home page and a update file;

a home page management server including a processor and a memory, and the home page management server being connected to a user terminal provided with a web browser and the update computer terminal though a communication network, the home page management server transmitting HTML document data to the user terminal to provide the home page on the user terminal in response to a transmission request of transmitting the HTML document data from the web browser of the user terminal, the HTML document data provided with banner data relating to the advertisement content; and

a mail server connected to the update computer terminal and the home page management server though the communication network, which receives the mail

message from the update computer terminal and stores the mail message;

wherein the home page management server includes:

a home page data base storing the HTML document data and the banner data for the home page and the content files transferred from the update computer terminal, new HTML document data being transferred from the update computer terminal and being stored in the home page data base;

a schedule data base storing schedule data including a date item which relates to a update of the advertisement contents and specify one of the content files;

a home page management unit reading out the HTML document data from the home page data base in response to the transmission request from the web browser of the user terminal, and transmitting the readout HTML document data to the user terminal, the home page management unit receiving the content file from the update computer terminal, and transferring the content file to the home page data base, wherein the home page management unit updates the home page utilizing the HTML document data stored in the home page data base in response to a update request from the update computer terminal;

a patrol search unit patrolling the mail server, the update computer terminal, the home page data base and the schedule data base, in this order, to search for the request of updating the home page, the first and second identifying items, the date item to extract the updated content files, and the updating files relating to the request of updating the home page and the first and second identifying items, a patrol timing and a number of times that patrol is to be carried out being determined based on the order of priority for accessing the mail server, the home page data base, the update computer terminal, and the schedule data base, the patrolling of the patrol search unit is finished after a first file is searched from the updated one of the content files and the updating files in the patrolling the mail server, the update computer terminal, the home page data base, and the schedule data base in the patrol order; and

a banner generating unit generating the banner data with utilizing the first file to update HTML document data with the banner data which is incorporated in the HTML document data with reference to the schedule data at the patrol timing;

wherein the update computer terminal is allowed to set the patrol timing, patrol order, number of times patrol is to be carried out, and setting regarding whether or not to cause the patrol to be carried out.

9. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 8, wherein the home page management unit extracts a updated HTML document data stored in the home page data base in accordance with a process for reading out a latest first HTML document data and a second HTML document data having an update time a predetermined period of time before the current time from the home page data base, and a process for extracting a mismatched data part of the first and second HTML document data.

10. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 8, wherein the patrol search unit sends a file search request through the management unit to the update computer terminal, and a reception process of an update file from the update computer terminal.

11. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 8, wherein the schedule database sets with a predetermined cycle period, and updates the content data associated with the schedule database, and the search process of schedule data in the schedule database includes a search process of schedule data associated with a schedule corresponding to the current time.

12. (Previously presented) A system for automatically updating a home page, comprising:

a home page database storing an HTML data;

a banner generation unit generating a banner HTML data;

a mail server receiving a mail message from an entrant, the mail message including a first request to update the banner HTML data;

an update computer terminal storing an update data from the entrant, the update data including a second request to update the banner HTML data;

a schedule database storing schedule data relating to the banner HTML data;

a patrol search unit patrolling the mail server, the update computer terminal, the home page database, and the schedule database to search and extract data relating to the banner HTML data; and

a home page management unit including a processor and a memory, the home page management unit reading the HTML data from the home page database, issuing a patrol search command to the patrol search unit to search and extract data relating to the banner HTML data from the first request, the second request, and the schedule data, issuing a banner generation command to the banner generation unit to generate the banner HTML data based on the data, reading the banner HTML data from the banner generation unit, appending the banner HTML data to the HTML data, and transmitting the HTML data with the banner HTML data appended thereto to a user terminal provided with a web browser in response to a request from the web browser of the user terminal.

REMARKS

Claims 3 and 8-12 were presented for examination in the present application and remain pending upon entry of the instant amendment, which is respectfully requested. Claims 8 and 12 are independent.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 3 and 8-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Claim 8 has been amended to obviate this rejection. Specifically, claim 8 has been amended to remove the recitation that the update computer terminal is allowed to set the patrol order. Thus, claim 8 now recites, in part, that the “the update computer terminal is allowed to set the patrol timing, number of times patrol is to be carried out, and setting regarding whether or not to cause the patrol to be carried out”.

Applicants submit that amended claim 8 overcomes the rejection under §112, second paragraph. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully submit that the instant amendment to claim 8 merely corrects a matter of form and thus, removes an issue for appeal. Applicants therefore submit that the instant amendment does not require further search and consideration. Accordingly, entry and consideration of the instant amendment are respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Independent claims 8 and 12, as well as dependent claims 3 and 9-11 remain finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Canadian Publication No. 20303466A1 to Loen et al. (Loen) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,937,160 to Davis et al (Davis).

Applicants respectfully maintain that present claims 8 and 12 are not disclosed or suggested by the cited art.

Independent claim 8 recites that the user terminal is "provided with a web browser" and that the home page management server transmits "HTML document data to the user terminal to provide the home page on the user terminal in response to a transmission request of transmitting the HTML document data from the web browser of the user terminal" (emphasis added).

The Final Office Action indicates that the "Examiner notes that the standing rejection clearly maps page 6, lines 11-18 of Loen as disclosing a user requesting HTML data (e.g. a web page) from the user terminal using a web browser". See page 2, lines 7-10 of the Final Office Action.

Applicants submit that the Office Action has mis-characterized the teachings of Loen and, based on this mischaracterization, the Office Action has based its conclusion of obviousness.

For ease of analysis, Figure 2 of Loen has been reproduced below.

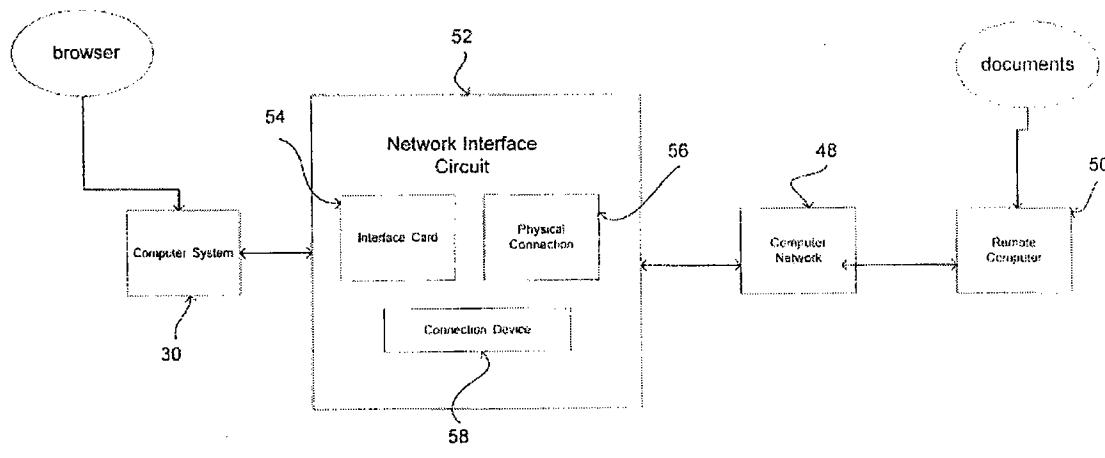


Figure 2

With respect to Figure 2, Loen discloses that the user computer system 30 has a browser and the web page is sent from the remote computer 50 by the request from the browser at the user computer system 39. Further, Loen also discloses that the web page is created by the remote computer 50, namely that data is sent to and from remote computer system 50 by network interface circuit 52. See page 6, lines 11-18.

The Office Action is asserting that "remote computer 50" of Loen reads on the "home page management server" recited by claim 8.

However, Loen discloses that if content in a region on a web page is changed at remote computer 50, the web page region is automatically updated at the user computer system 30 without having to republish the web page and without the user having to refresh the page. See page 9, line 27 through page 10, line 4. In other words, Loen merely discloses that that updating the content by remote computer 50 results in that "content" being updated in the web page of the user computer system 30.

Clearly, in Loen, the remote computer 50 does not transmit "HTML document data to the user terminal to provide the home page on the user terminal in response to a transmission request of transmitting the HTML document data from the web browser of the user terminal" as required by the "home page management server" recited by claim 8.

In fact, Loen teaches away from requiring the transmission of the updated content "in response to a transmission request" for the browser of the user computer 30. Applicants submit that any modification of Loen that requires the transmission of a request from user computer 30 to remote computer 50 in order to obtain the updated content would render the device of Loen inoperative for its intended purpose, which requires the web page region to be automatically updated at the user computer system

30 without having to republish the web page and without the user having to refresh the page.

Davis discloses, with reference to FIG. 4, that a web page is updated when web page revisions are received in e-mail. Further, this reference disclosed in its FIG. 5 that web page contents are updated when an e-mail message contains a content change. However, Davis also does not cure the deficiencies discussed above with respect to Loen.

Moreover, independent claim 8, in part, requires a patrol search unit "patrolling the mail server, the update computer terminal, the home page data base and the schedule data base, in this order, to search for the request of updating the home page".

Again, Loen teaches away from the need for a request of updating a home page and therefore simply fails to disclose or suggest the patrol unit of claim 8 that patrols the update computer terminal for such a request in the manner claimed.

Davis does not cure this above noted deficiency of Loen.

Again, independent claim 8 further requires that the patrol search unit patrols "the mail server, the update computer terminal, the home page data base and the schedule data base in this order" and requires that "the patrolling of the patrol search unit is finished after first one of files is searched". (Emphasis added).

While Loen may describe the scheduling of the web page; Applicants maintain that Loen merely discloses that the web page is updated based on the schedule in the remote computer 50. See page 14, lines 13-19.

The portions of Loen cited by the Final Office Action, namely pages 11 through 14, merely describe event triggers, which when present, result in the content of the web page being changed by changing the source file. More specifically, the event trigger "Schedule Go To" only describes jumping the schedule to a specific location and does not describe ending the patrol.

Loen only mentions that if an event trigger is generated at the browser of user computer system 30, the content of the web page is changed to other contents, the appearance of the web page is changed or is changed to another web page. These web pages and its contents are stored in the database prepared in the remote computer 50 and not at the computer system 30.

Therefore, Applicants maintain that Loen does not disclose the concept of the remote computer 50 patrolling the system in a particular order and updating the data file inside its own database in the manner recited by claim 8.

Davis also does not cure this above noted deficiency of Loen.

Independent claim 8 also recites, in part, a home page management server including a processor and a memory.

The Office Action acknowledges that Loen fails to disclose a home page management server. Rather, the Office Action asserts that Davis discloses the claimed server.

Applicants maintain the traversal of this assertion.

Davis discloses an Information Manager System (IMS) module. However, Davis does not disclose that the IMS module is structured by home base data base, schedule data base, home page management unit, patrol search unit and banner generating unit

in the manner recited by claim 8. In particular, Davis and Loen are both silent regarding the function concerning the patrol search unit as it relates to the IMS module of Davis. Therefore, even if one were to assume that the IMS module of Davis were a "home page management server", the proposed combination of Davis and Loen still fails to disclose or suggest the combination recited by claim 8.

Accordingly, claim 8, as well as claims 3 and 9-11 that depend therefrom, are allowable over the cited art. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claims 3 and 8-11 are respectfully requested.

Independent claim 12 recites a home page management unit that, in response to a request from the web browser of the user terminal, reads "the HTML data from the home page database", issues "a patrol search command to the patrol search unit to search and extract data relating to the banner HTML data from the first request, the second request, and the schedule data", issues "a banner generation command to the banner generation unit to generate the banner HTML data based on the data", reads "the banner HTML data from the banner generation unit", appends "the banner HTML data to the HTML data", and transmits "the HTML data with the banner HTML data appended thereto to a user terminal" (emphasis added).

Applicants submit that the proposed combination of Loen and Davis fail to disclose or suggest the home page management unit that, in response to a request from the web browser of the user terminal, updates an entire web page by searching and extracting data relating to the banner HTML data from "the first request, the second request, and the schedule data" as recited by claim 12.

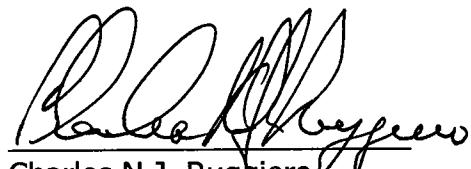
Thus, Applicants submit that claim 12 is also allowable over the cited art. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claim 12 are respectfully requested.

Applicants submit that the instant traversal of the rejection to claims 3 and 8-12 in view of Loen and Davis places the present application in better condition for appeal and does not require further search and consideration. Accordingly, entry and consideration of the instant amendment, at least for the purposes of appeal, are respectfully requested.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for issuance. Such action is solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that consultation with Applicant's attorney would be helpful in the advancement of the prosecution, the Examiner is invited to call the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,



Charles N.J. Ruggiero
Reg. No. 28,468
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Ohlandt, Greeley, Ruggiero & Perle, L.L.P.
One Landmark Square, 10th floor
Stamford, CT 06901-2682
Tel: (203) 327-4500
Fax: (203) 327-6401

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